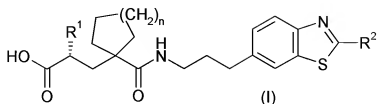


Claims:

1. (Original) A compound of formula (I)



wherein:

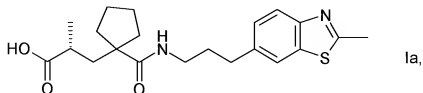
- R^1 is H or CH_3 ;
 R^2 is C_1 - C_2 alkyl; and
 n is 1 or 2;

a tautomer thereof or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, or solvate of said compound or tautomer.

2. (Original) The compound according to Claim 1 wherein n is 1.
3. (Original) The compound according to Claim 1 or Claim 2 wherein R^1 is hydrogen.
4. (Original) The compound according to Claim 3 wherein R^2 is methyl.
5. (Original) The compound according to Claim 3 wherein R^2 is ethyl.
6. (Original) The compound according to Claim 1 or Claim 2 wherein R^1 is methyl.
7. (Original) The compound according to Claim 6 wherein R^2 is methyl.
8. (Original) The compound according to Claim 6 wherein R^2 is ethyl.
9. (Original) The compound according to Claims 1 or 2 wherein R^2 is methyl.
10. (Original) The compound according to Claims 1 or 2 wherein R^2 is ethyl.
11. (Original) The compound according to Claim 1 selected from
(*R*)-2-Methyl-3-(1-[[3-(2-methyl-1,3-benzothiazol-6-yl)propyl]carbamoyl]cyclopentyl)propanoic acid;
3-(1-[[3-(2-ethyl-1,3-benzothiazol-6-yl)propyl]carbamoyl]cyclopentyl)propanoic acid;
(*R*)-2-Methyl-3-(1-[[3-(2-ethyl-1,3-benzothiazol-6-yl)propyl]carbamoyl]cyclopentyl)propanoic acid; or

3-(1-[[3-(2-ethyl-1,3-benzothiazol-6-yl)propyl]carbamoyl]cyclohexyl)propanoic acid.

12. (Original) A compound of Formula Ia,



a tautomer thereof or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, or solvate of said compound or tautomer.

13. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of formula (I) as claimed in any one of Claims 1, 2, 11 or 12, or pharmaceutically acceptable salts or solvates thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or carrier.

14. (Cancelled).

15. (Original) A method of treating or preventing a disorder or condition by inhibiting NEP in a mammal, comprising administering to said mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula (I) as claimed in any one of Claims 1, 2, 11 or 12, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, or solvate thereof.

16. (Original) The method according to Claim 15 wherein n is 1.

17. (Original) The method according to Claim 15 or Claim 16 wherein R¹ is hydrogen.

18. (Original) The method according to Claim 17 wherein R² is methyl.

19. (Original) The method according to Claim 17 wherein R² is ethyl.

20. (Original) The method according to Claims 15 or 16 wherein R¹ is methyl.

21. (Original) The method according to Claim 20 wherein R² is methyl.

22. (Original) The method according to Claim 22 wherein R² is ethyl.

23. (Original) The method according to Claims 15 or 16 wherein R² is methyl.

24. (Original) The method according to Claims 15 or 16 wherein R² is ethyl.

25. (Original) The method according to Claims 15 or 16, wherein the disorder or condition is selected from hypertension, essential hypertension, pulmonary hypertension, secondary hypertension, isolated systolic hypertension, hypertension associated with diabetes, hypertension associated with atherosclerosis, and renovascular hypertension, peripheral vascular disease, heart failure, angina, renal insufficiency, acute renal failure, cyclical oedema, Menière's disease, hyperaldosteronism (primary and secondary), hypercalciuria, stroke, glaucoma, obesity, metabolic diseases, Metabolic Syndrome,

diabetes, impaired glucose tolerance, diabetic retinopathy, diabetic neuropathy, menstrual disorders, preterm labour, pre-eclampsia, endometriosis, and reproductive disorders, male and female infertility, polycystic ovarian syndrome, implantation failure, asthma, inflammation, leukemia, pain, cancer pain, depression, drug abuse, cirrhosis, epilepsy, affective disorders, dementia and geriatric confusion, gastrointestinal disorders, diarrhoea, irritable bowel syndrome, wound healing, diabetic and venous ulcers and pressure sores, septic shock, gastric acid secretion, hyperreninaemia, cystic fibrosis, restenosis, atherosclerosis, female sexual dysfunction (FSD), sexual arousal disorder, female sexual arousal disorder (FSAD), male sexual dysfunction (MSD), male erectile dysfunction (MED), hypoactive sexual desire disorder, orgasmic disorder and sexual pain disorder.

26. (Original) The method according to Claim 25 wherein the disorder or condition is selected from female sexual dysfunction (FSD), sexual arousal disorder, female sexual arousal disorder (FSAD), male sexual dysfunction (MSD), male erectile dysfunction (MED), hypoactive sexual desire disorder, orgasmic disorder and sexual pain disorder.

27. (Original) The method according to Claim 26 wherein the disorder or condition is selected from female sexual dysfunction (FSD), female sexual arousal disorder (FSAD), male sexual dysfunction (MSD), and male erectile dysfunction (MED).

28. (Original) A method of treating or preventing a disorder or condition by inhibiting NEP in a mammal, comprising administering to said mammal a therapeutically effective amount of the composition as claimed in Claim 14 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, or solvate thereof.

29. (Original) The method according to Claim 28 wherein the disorder or condition is selected from female sexual dysfunction (FSD), female sexual arousal disorder (FSAD), male sexual dysfunction (MSD), and male erectile dysfunction (MED).

30. (Original) The method according to Claim 29, wherein the disorder is FSD and the active ingredient is a

(a) PDE5 inhibitor selected from:

5-[2-ethoxy-5-(4-methyl-1-piperazinylsulphonyl)phenyl]-1-methyl-3-n-propyl-1,6-dihydro-7H-pyrazolo[4,3-d]pyrimidin-7-one sildenafil;

(6R,12aR)-2,3,6,7,12,12a-hexahydro-2-methyl-6-(3,4-methylene-dioxyphenyl)-pyrazino[2',1':6,1]pyrido[3,4-b]indole-1,4-dione;

2-[2-ethoxy-5-(4-ethyl-piperazin-1-yl-1-sulphonyl)-phenyl]-5-methyl-7-propyl-3H-imidazo[5,1-f][1,2,4]triazin-4-one;

5-[2-ethoxy-5-(4-ethylpiperazin-1-ylsulphonyl)pyridin-3-yl]-3-ethyl-2-[2-methoxyethyl]-2,6-dihydro-7H-pyrazolo[4,3-d]pyrimidin-7-one; and
5-(5-acetyl-2-butoxy-3-pyridinyl)-3-ethyl-2-(1-ethyl-3-azetidiny)-2,6-dihydro-7H-pyrazolo[4,3-d]pyrimidin-7-one

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof;

- (b) an NPY Y1 inhibitor;
- (c) a dopamine agonist selected from apomorphine or a selective D₂, D₃ or D₂/D₃ agonist selected from pramipexole and ropirinol;
- (d) a melanocortin receptor agonist or modulator or melanocortin enhancer selected from melanotan II, PT-14, PT-141;
- (e) an agonist, antagonist or modulator for 5HT_{2C};
- (f) an estrogen receptor modulator, agonist and/or antagonists selected from raloxifene, tibolone or lasofoxifene;
- (g) an androgen selected from androsterone, dehydro-androsterone, testosterone, androstenedione or a synthetic androgen; and
- (h) an oestrogen selected from oestradiol, oestrone, oestriol or synthetic estrogen.

31. (Original) The method according to Claim 28 wherein the disorder is MED and the active ingredient is:

- (a) a PDE5 inhibitor selected from:

5-[2-ethoxy-5-(4-methyl-1-piperazinylsulphonyl)phenyl]-1-methyl-3-n-propyl-1,6-dihydro-7H-pyrazolo[4,3-d]pyrimidin-7-one sildenafil;

(6R, 12aR)-2,3,6,7, 12, 12a-hexahydro-2-methyl-6-(3,4-methylene-dioxyphenyl)-pyrazino[2', 1':6, 1]pyrido[3,4-b]indole-1,4-dione;

2-[2-ethoxy-5-(4-ethyl-piperazin-1-yl-1-sulphonyl)-phenyl]-5-methyl-7-propyl-3H-imidazo[5, 1-f][1,2,4]triazin-4-one;

5-[2-ethoxy-5-(4-ethylpiperazin-1-ylsulphonyl)pyridin-3-yl]-3-ethyl-2-[2-methoxyethyl]-2,6-dihydro-7H-pyrazolo[4,3-d]pyrimidin-7-one; and

5-(5-acetyl-2-butoxy-3-pyridinyl)-3-ethyl-2-(1-ethyl-3-azetidiny)-2,6-dihydro-7H-pyrazolo[4,3-d]pyrimidin-7-one

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof;

- (b) an NPY Y1 inhibitor;
- (c) a dopamine agonist selected from apomorphine or a selective D₂, D₃ or D₂/D₃ agonist selected from pramipexole and ropirinol;

- (d) a melanocortin receptor agonist or modulator or melanocortin enhancer selected from melanotan II, PT-14, PT-141; or
- (e) an agonist, antagonist or modulator for 5HT2C.

32. (Original) The method according to Claim 28 wherein the condition is a cardiovascular disorder and the active ingredient is:

- (a) angiotensin receptor blockers selected from losartan, valsartan, telmisartan, candesartan, irbesartan, eprosartan or olmesartan;
- (b) calcium channel blockers selected from amlodipine;
- (c) statins selected from atorvastatin;
- (d) PDE5 inhibitors selected from sildenafil, tadalafil, vardenafil, 5-[2-ethoxy-5-(4-ethylpiperazin-1-ylsulphonyl)pyridin-3-yl]-3-ethyl-2-[2-methoxyethyl]-2,6-dihydro-7H-pyrazolo[4,3-d]pyrimidin-7-one; 5-(5-acetyl-2-butoxy-3-pyridinyl)-3-ethyl-2-(1-ethyl-3-azetidiny)-2,6-dihydro-7H-pyrazolo[4,3-d]pyrimidin-7-one; or N-[[3-(4,7-dihydro-1-methyl-7-oxo-3-propyl-1H-pyrazolo[4,3-d]pyrimidin-5-yl)-4-propoxyphenyl]sulfonyl]-1-methyl-2-pyrrolidinepropanamide;
- (e) beta blockers selected from atenolol or carvedilol
- (f) ACE inhibitors selected from quinapril, enalapril or lisinopril;
- (g) alpha-blockers selected from doxazosin;
- (h) selective aldosterone receptor antagonists selected from eplerenone or spironolactone; or
- (i) imidazoline I₁ agonists selected from rilmenidine or moxonidine.

33. (Original) The method according to Claims 28 wherein the composition is administered orally, buccally or sublingually and the therapeutically effective amount of the composition is 5 mg to 1000 mg.

34. (Original) The method according to Claim 33 wherein the composition is administered orally.